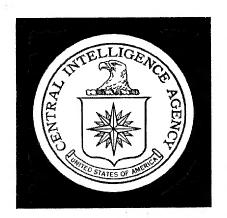


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DIRECTORATE OF INTELLIGENCE

# Intelligence Report

Weekly Report Prepared Exclusively for the Senior Interdepartmental Group

> Secret No. 0403/67

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#### 3. BOLIVIA

Reports of guerrilla activity in Santa Cruz Department in eastern Bolivia (see map) have precipitated requests by government and military officials for substantial US financial and military aid to equip a force for counterinsurgency operations in that area.

There has been little guerrilla activity in Bolivia in recent years, but extremists have continually plotted to organize insurgent bands. At present, the guerrillas are variously said to

number from 16 to 130.

Two suspects arrested by Bolivian authorities in Santa Cruz on 16 March claimed to be members of a well-armed, Cuban-sponsored band that included Peruvians, Argentines, and "perhaps other foreigners."

The guerrilla activity reported might be traced to this group, but positive evidence is lacking.

The army made contact with the insurgents on 17 March, and on 22-23 March an army unit clashed with a guerrilla band. A 100-man company, trained and equipped under the US Military Assistance Program, has been sent to the area to assist the 120-man counterinsurgency force already stationed there.

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